

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:714
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2003
OLD BRIDGES
MAHBOOB ZAHEDI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the construction of the new bridges is not upto the standard prescribed by the Railways;
- (b) whether as far 100 year old bridges numbering 51,340, the fate of inspection for the bridges was also distressing;
- (c) whether on Eastern Railway there are 26 distressed bridges which were not submitted to special inspection as prescribed by the various officers during the period 1997-98 to 2001-02; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken in securing safety of the railway bridges maintenance so as to avoid recurrence of the train accidents?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

- (a) No, Sir. The new Railway bridges are being built as per the standards prescribes.
- (b) No, Sir. The Railway bridges are inspected as per procedure laid down. As on 1.4.2003 there are only 317 distressed bridges on Indian Railways out of which 234 are targeted to be rebuilt/rehabilitated during the year 2003-04.
- (c) There are 26 distressed bridges in Eastern Railway. All these are inspected as per schedule.
- (d) Does not arise. All necessary steps are being taken to ensure safety of train running on Railway Bridges and their maintenance.